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NO. 9436 P. 2

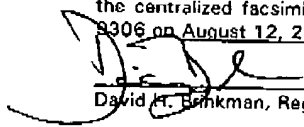
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Date

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sotoyama et al.  
Filed: May 21, 2004  
Serial No.: 10/709,674 (continuation of PCT/JP02/12162, filed November 21, 2002)  
Art Unit: 1761  
Confirmation No.: 3673  
Examiner: Unknown  
Title: BIFIDOBACTERIUM LONGUM  
Our Ref: SHG-030P2

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

August 12, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

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NO. 9436 P. 1

1761

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PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT  
AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW  
AND RELATED LITIGATION

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Re: U.S. Serial No. 10/709,674 BIFIDOBACTERIUM LONGUM  
Attorney Docket No. SHG-030P2

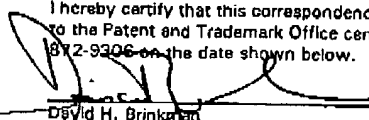
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Preliminary Amendment (3 pages)

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